(b) what is the number of tourists from India and Soviet Union who visited each other's country during the last three years; and

(c) what steps Government propose to take to boost tourist traffic between the two countries?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI SHIVRAJ PATIL): (a) and (b) The number of tourists who visited India from Soviet Union during the last 3 years are as given below:

Tear	Number	%change
1985	14,202	—
1986	17,069	20.2
1987	27,968	63.9
1988 January-June	16,334	37.5*

*As compared to the corresponding period of previous year Statistics of Indian tourists visiting different countries including Soviet Union are not being compiled. Shortage of hotel capacity in India has not adversely effected the inflow of tourists from Soviet Union to India as is evident from the rising trend of tourist arrivals.

(c) The Festival of India held in USSR and the Festival of USSR held in India are expected to give a big boost to tourist traffic between the two countries. In adition tourism seminars have been organised both in USSR and India to strengthen tourism ties between the two countries. Production of publicity literature and training of guides in Russian language, and setting up of Indian restaurants in Soviet Union to popularise Indian cuisine are some of the measures taken for increasing the flow of tourist traffic from USSR to India.

Sailing of the vessel Sanjeevani

2305. SHRI D. B. CHANDRE GOWDA: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have ascertained the exact cause of the sailing of the vessel 'Sanjeevani' from the Cochin Shipyard recently;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof;

(c) whether any responsibility has been fixed for such losses; and

(d) if so, what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI RAJESH PILOT): (a) and (b) S. S. SANJEEVANI, a transhipper owned by M/s. Salgaocar & Bros. underwent repairs at Cochin Shipyard. After undergoing extensive repairs, the ship left the Cochin Shipyard on 20th October, 1988

(c) & (d) The Hon'ble Member is presumably referring to the loss suffered by Cochin Shipyard in the repair work. The decision to accept the shiprepair order was taken by a negotiating committee consisting of GM(Works), GM(Finance), CM(SRO), CM(Commercial), CM(Finance) and DM(Commercial) of CSL and was taken at a time when the Shipyard's facilities were under-utilised. In view of this, no action against any officer has been taken for incurring a lossin the shiprepar work.

Birla Institute of Technology Mesra, Ranchi

2396. SHRI SATYA PRAKASH MALAVIYA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government grants have been extended to Birla Institute of Technology, Mesra, Ranchi for post

graduate courses, and if so what are the details thereof till date;

(b) whether Government have extended grants to the Institute for purchasing equipments for new laboratories and for modernisation of its existing laboratories; if so, what are the details thereof till date;

(c) whether Government have also extended grants to the Institute for construction of hostels, staff quarters, library building, laboratory buildings etc., and if so, what are the details thereof, till date; and

(d) whether in spite of the statutory provisions and Government's directive the said grants have not been audited by the Accountant General, Bihar at any stage; if so, what steps Government propose to take in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF EDUCATION AND CULTURE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI L. P. SHAHI): (a) Yes, Sir. During Seventh Plan period so far a total grant amounting to Rs. 43.01 lakh was released by this Ministry to Birla Institute of Technology, Mesra, Ranchi for the approved postgraduate courses in Engineering/Technology towards 100 per cent share of the Government of India. The University Grants Commission released Rs. 5.00 lakhs for the post-graduate scholarship.

(b) Yes, Sir. During Seventh Plan period the following grants have so far been sanctioned by this Ministry to the Institute for the schemes mentioned below:—

(Rs in Lakhs)

Scheme	Amaunt sanctioned
Modernisation & Removal of Obsolescence	65-00
Institutional Network Scheme	5-00
Creation of Infrastructure in Areas of Engineering Technology	21-00
Strengthening of facilities in Crucial Areas of Technology where weakness exists.	65-00
Total—	156-00

The University Grants Commission also released so far an amount of Rs. 10.00 lakhs for equipment during the Seventh Plan period.

(c) During Seventh Plan period this Ministry has sanctioned a grant of Rs. 1.92 lakhs for construction of library buildingss for conducting MBA programme at the Institute City Centre at Lalpur, Ranchi, prior to its attaining Deemed University Status. The University Grants Commission allocated Rs. 5.00 lakhs for completion of the library buildings at Mesra campus of the institute out of which an amount of Rs. 1.25 lakhs has been released in July, 1988. The Commission has also allocated an amount of Rs. 10.00 lakhs for Girls Hostel in September, 1987 but no grant has yet been released by the Commission to the Institute for this purpose.

(d) As per rules of the Institute (Rule 32) the accounts are being audited by a firm of auditors selected by the Board of Governors from out of a panel approved by the Government of India.

With the approval of the Ministry of Finance, this Ministry has requested the Accountant General Bihar to conduct audit of the Government Grants released to the Institute.